

important markups in its history. As one senior staffer said about Lory's leadership at this time, "She really rescued the committee."

In the nearly 3 years since, Lory Yudin has become a beloved and respected chief clerk, looked up to by everyone as the quintessential Senate professional. And, of course, she has been a great friend to members and staffers alike. For younger staffers, she has been the perfect mix of mentor and mom, someone they turn to for wisdom and counsel.

Lory is very much a member of our Senate family. This is where she met her husband David, as well as so many of her lifelong friends. And while Lory has always been dedicated to her work here in the Senate, there is no question that her family has always come first, especially her son Eli. As we know, Lory is extraordinarily proud of Eli's graduation, just weeks ago, from the University of Michigan.

Today, as Lory begins the next chapter of her life, I join with the HELP Committee's Ranking Member, Senator ENZI, and all the committee's members and staffers in expressing our respect and love for Lory, and our gratitude for a job done with enormous skill and dedication. We wish Lory and her family the very best in the years to come.

#### HURWITZ NOMINATION

Mr. GRASSLEY. Mr. President, yesterday, all time was yielded back on the Hurwitz nomination, post-cloture, and the nominee was then confirmed by voice vote. I was not aware we were going to vote on the nomination by voice. Had I known, I would have requested the yeas and nays. The following Members have informed my staff that if there had been a rollcall vote, they would have voted 'nay' on final confirmation on the nomination of Andrew Hurwitz to the Ninth Circuit Court of Appeals:

1. Senator Chuck Grassley (R-IA)
2. Senator Orrin Hatch (R-UT)
3. Senator Mike Lee (R-UT)
4. Senator Jeff Sessions (R-AL)
5. Senator Richard Shelby (R-AL)
6. Senator Lindsey Graham (R-SC)
7. Senator Jim DeMint (R-SC)
8. Senator John Cornyn (R-TX)
9. Senator Kay Bailey Hutchison (R-TX)
10. Senator Tom Coburn (R-OK)
11. Senator James Inhofe (R-OK)
12. Senator Mitch McConnell (R-KY)
13. Senator Rand Paul (R-KY)
14. Senator John Barrasso (R-WY)
15. Senator Mike Enzi (R-WY)
16. Senator David Vitter (R-LA)
17. Senator Pat Toomey (R-PA)
18. Senator Roy Blunt (R-MO)
19. Senator Johnny Isakson (R-GA)
20. Senator Saxby Chambliss (R-GA)
21. Senator John Thune (R-SD)
22. Senator Pat Roberts (R-KS)
23. Senator Jerry Moran (R-KS)
24. Senator Dan Coats (R-IN)
25. Senator Thad Cochran (R-MS)
26. Senator Roger Wicker (R-MS)
27. Senator James Risch (R-ID)
28. Senator Mike Crapo (R-ID)
29. Senator John Hoeven (R-ND)

30. Senator Mike Johanns (R-NE)
31. Senator Richard Burr (R-NC)
32. Senator Lamar Alexander (R-TN)
33. Senator Bob Corker (R-TN)
34. Senator John Boozman (R-AR)
35. Senator Marco Rubio (R-FL)
36. Senator Dean Heller (R-NV)
37. Senator Ron Johnson (R-WI)
38. Senator Kelly Ayotte (R-NH)
39. Senator Ron Portman (R-OH)

#### ADDITIONAL STATEMENTS

##### VETERANS' HEALTH CARE

• Ms. COLLINS. Mr. President, today I wish to recognize a landmark moment in health care for our veterans. Today is the 25th anniversary of the ribbon cutting ceremony for the Nation's first Veterans' Community Based Outpatient Clinic, CBOC. On June 13, 1987, at the Cary Medical Center in Caribou, ME, Governor John McKernan was joined by Senators George Mitchell and William Cohen, and then-Congresswoman OLYMPIA SNOWE to cut the ribbon of the new clinic. As the first community based outpatient clinic of its kind in the United States, the Caribou clinic served as the proving ground upon which the Department of Veterans Affairs, VA, has built a nationwide health care system that delivers much improved access to care for America's rural veterans. Today nearly 3.5 million veterans, approximately 41 percent of those enrolled in the VA health care system, live in rural areas, many of whom receive care at more than 800 community based outpatient clinics.

The history of the CBOC in Caribou, however, began long before the ribbon cutting, when seven Aroostook County veterans dedicated themselves to the mission of improving access to critical health care services to the veterans living in their communities. To accomplish this goal, they established the Aroostook County Veterans Medical Facility Research and Development, Inc. The initial members were Percy Thibeault, Meo Bosse, John Rowe, Ray Guerrette, Wesley Adams, Walter Corey, and Leonard Woods, Sr.

Over a span of 8 years, they committed themselves to convincing the VA to establish a veterans' health clinic in Caribou. They were joined along the way by other concerned veterans, community members, the Cary Medical Center, and a number of Maine veterans service organizations. Their initiative paid off 8 years later, and today, on the 25th anniversary of their historic accomplishment, they deserve to be recognized. Our veterans in rural areas throughout the United States benefit today from the dedication of this landmark work. CBOCs are a vital part of veteran health services today.

These exemplary seven men battled to ensure that health care services were available to every veteran living in rural areas. That battle, despite the VA's best efforts, goes on.

Rural areas are still underserved in the types of medical treatment avail-

able. In some cases CBOCs don't even have permanent physicians assigned. The Iraq and Afghan wars have created a new generation of combat veterans, many of whom have new medical needs including prosthetic medical treatments, mental health care, and extensive physical therapy needs.

I am encouraged by the VA's renewed commitment to rural health care, and the \$250 million that VA is allocating for programs for rural communities. But I would urge the VA to do more, and expand one program in particular, the Access Received Closer to Home, ARCH, project. ARCH has been tremendously popular in all five of the communities where the pilot program was established. Given Caribou's history, it is especially fitting that Caribou CBOC was selected as one of the five locations.

Our veterans have sacrificed so much for our country. We owe them all that we can to ensure they receive the best care possible. The seven men who fought for the Caribou CBOC knew that, and we honor their dedication to their fellow veterans by carrying on their work.●

##### TRIBUTE TO PAT BRUCE

• Mr. HELLER. Mr. President, I rise today to congratulate Pat Bruce for being presented with the Bureau of Land Management's, BLM, "Making a Difference" National Volunteer Award. Mr. Bruce, a volunteer with the BLM Winnemucca District Black Rock Field Office, has been awarded for his outstanding volunteer service and leadership to preserve and maintain the Silver State's wilderness areas. I am proud to honor a Nevadan who is dedicated to giving back to our community to create a better and brighter tomorrow.

As the field project coordinator for the Friends of Nevada Wilderness, Mr. Bruce has dedicated 6 years to organizing volunteer projects within wilderness areas in the Black Rock Desert, which span over 1 million acres of BLM lands. Hiking in remote areas, Mr. Bruce maps routes and boundaries to create an assessment of current ground conditions. He is also a volunteer supervisor for nonwilderness projects which include the restoration and protection of BLM's Black Rock Desert-High Rock Canyon Emigrant Trails National Conservation Area.

The Silver State is home to vast wildlands and wildlife, which are vital to the character of our State. As a life long Nevadan and an avid outdoorsman, I was raised to respect and appreciate our State's natural surroundings and abundant wildlife. I first enjoyed these great Nevada treasures with my father and have since passed that same respect and appreciation along to my children.

I understand the importance of good stewardship and appreciate Mr. Bruce's dedication to protecting and maintaining Nevada's lands. I am proud to represent him in the Senate and applaud